PhD in Communication Sciences and Disorders

Minimum requirements for application to the PhD graduate program:

1. Hold a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution or a recognized institution in another country whose requirements for the bachelor’s degree are substantially equivalent to a U.S. bachelor’s degree.
2. Minimum grade requirements: 2.750 overall GPA and 3.500 GPA in the last 60 semester credit hours.
3. Three letters of recommendation.
4. Statement of purpose.
5. Professional resume.
6. Official scores for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Miller Analogies Test (MAT) taken within the last five years.
7. Applicants whose native language is not English must submit official scores for either the TOEFL, the academic module of the IELTS examination, or the PTE-Academic examination, taken within the last two years. No waivers are allowed. Minimum acceptable scores to be considered for admission are: TOEFL - 100 Internet-based with a score of 23 or higher on the speaking portion; IELTS - an overall band score of 7.5; PTE-Academic - a score of 73.
8. Completion of interview with program faculty/clinical supervisors, which will include (but not be limited to) an assessment of academic potential, motivation and commitment to the profession, and interpersonal and communication skills. Not all applicants will be offered an interview.

To be considered for admission, please submit the application for admission to the WSU Graduate School, including official transcripts from all institutions attended, as well as the supporting documents listed above.

Admission to the CSD PhD program is restricted to those students whose abilities, experience and previous coursework indicate that they are likely to be able to complete the doctoral program successfully. It is expected that the applicant will have acquired sufficient knowledge in communication sciences and disorders to be prepared for entry into an integrated program of advanced study and research. Applications are reviewed on a continuing basis.

Program Requirements

The doctoral program in communication sciences and disorders requires a minimum of 65 hours beyond the master’s degree, or 95 hours beyond the bachelor’s degree, on the plan of study (including a maximum of 18 hours of dissertation). In addition, 12 credit hours of research tool courses are required. A doctoral student becomes a candidate for the degree after passing the qualifying examination, which typically is taken during the semester the plan of study requirements are completed (exclusive of dissertation hours). Doctoral candidates enroll in at least 2 dissertation hours each semester (including the semester of graduation). The final requirements for the PhD are the completion of original research, the dissertation and an oral defense.